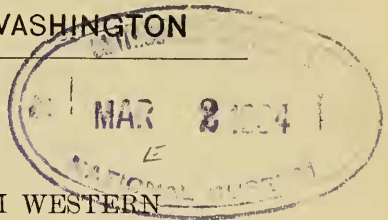


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW LYCOPODIUM FROM WESTERN  
GUATEMALA.<sup>1</sup>

BY WILLIAM R. MAXON.

The present new species is one of an interesting collection of plants from western Guatemala, received recently from Dr. Alexander F. Skutch. It is dedicated with much pleasure to its discoverer, who although engaged primarily in a study of the nesting habits and life history of tropical American birds has found time nevertheless for a good deal of judicious botanical collecting.

*Lycopodium Skutchii* Maxon, sp. nov.

Subg. *Urostachys*, sect. *Phlegmariurus*, ser. *Aqualupiana*. Planta pendula flaccida; partes vegetativae fertilibus paulum longiores, 3-6-bipartitae, caulibus tenuibus angulatis; folia distantia, obscure 8-faria, patentia, herbacea, integra, anguste ovata vel oblongo-lanceolata, longa acuminata, apiculata, basi subsessili anguste rotundata, costa marginibusque decurrentibus; partes fertiles 6-8-bipartitae, laxae, sporophyllis herbaceis subimbricatis e basi decurrente attenuata late ovatis, acuminatis, concavis, sporangia magna tegentibus.

A slender pendent epiphyte, 75 cm. long. Vegetative parts somewhat longer than the reproductive, unequally 3-6 times bipartite, the stem 1 mm. in diameter or less, angulate; leaves equal, distant, spreading, entire, obscurely 8-ranked, mostly dorsiventrally arranged by torsion at base, 8-11 mm. long, 2.5-3.5 mm. broad, narrowly ovate to oblong-lanceolate, long-acuminate at apex (the tip apiculate), narrowly rounded at base, subsessile, the costa and margins sharply long-decurrent; leaf-tissue wrinkled, thin-herbaceous, the immersed costa evident by transmitted light. Reproductive parts about 30 cm. long, lax, delicate, 6-8 times subequally bipartite, interruptedly fertile; sporophylls broadly ovate from a cuneate-decurrent base, 2-4 mm. long, about 1.5 mm. broad, acuminate, dark green, herbaceous, wrinkled, subcarinate, cucullate, embracing but not wholly concealing the sporangia, subimbricate only, those of the terminal strobiles closest but not congested; sporangia suborbicular, about 1.3 mm. in diameter, with a narrow, very deep sinus.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,494,904, collected at Chichavac, Department of Chimaltenango, Guatemala, alt. 2,400-2,700 meters, from a mossy leaning tree trunk in humid dicotyledonous forest, Feb. 16, 1933, by Alexander F. Skutch (no. 243).

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Of the few tropical American species of its subgroup *L. Skutchii* need be compared only with the Antillean *L. aqualupianum* Spring and with the continental *L. callitrichifolium* Mett., of which *L. dichaeoides* Maxon<sup>2</sup> is probably a synonym. It differs notably from both in its long-acuminate leaves, which are borne in eight ranks rather than four. In sporophyll characters *L. Skutchii* resembles *L. aqualupianum*, but in that species the leaves are, at most, barely acute and the costa is plainly elevated throughout. It may be even more readily distinguished from *L. callitrichifolium*, in which the leaves are obtusely oblong-oval to broadly subspatulate and the sporophylls for the most part congested.

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<sup>2</sup>Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington 18: 231. 1905.